



Salvaging Food, Drug, and Device Products from Flood and Power Outages

Any salvage, reclamation, or reconditioning companies selling salvaged goods in the State of Texas must carry a current Salvage License with the Texas Department of State Health Services (25 TAC § 229.545).

- Please ensure when buying or accepting any damaged products from salvage, reclamation, or reconditioning companies that they hold a current license with DSHS.
- Companies can apply for a license with DSHS by going to: <http://dshs.texas.gov/salvage/forms.aspx> and completing an application and submitting the application fee.

Exposure to Flood Waters

Most food, drug, and device products that are exposed to flood waters cannot be salvaged. Current Food and Drug Salvage Regulations provide information on products that can and cannot be salvaged.

- Food Salvage Rules:
[http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?ta c_view=5&ti=25&pt=1&ch=229&sch=AA&rl=Y](http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?ta c_view=5&ti=25&pt=1&ch=229&sch=AA&rl=Y)
Food Products that CANNOT be salvaged if exposed to flood waters:
 - Any exposed foods, bulk foods, fresh produce, meat, poultry, fish, and eggs

- Paper or cellophane wrapped foods (this includes products in secondary packaging in which the outer package is of porous material (cake-mixes, cereal, etc.)
- Food products in containers with screw caps, snap-lids, crimped caps, twist caps, flip tops, and snap openings
- Cans that are dented, leaking, bulging, or rusting
- Drug Salvage Rules:
[http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?ta c_view=5&ti=25&pt=1&ch=229&sch=BB&rl=Y](http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?ta c_view=5&ti=25&pt=1&ch=229&sch=BB&rl=Y)
 - No drug products can be salvaged if exposed to flood waters.
- Device Salvage Rules:
[http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?ta c_view=5&ti=25&pt=1&ch=229&sch=CC&rl=Y](http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?ta c_view=5&ti=25&pt=1&ch=229&sch=CC&rl=Y)
 - No device products can be salvaged if exposed to flood waters.

FDA statement on food products exposed to flood waters. <https://www.fda.gov/food/recallsoutbreaksemergencies/emergencies/ucm112723.htm>

Exposure to Power Outages

Food and Drugs that require refrigeration typically cannot be salvaged when exposed to temperatures above 41 degrees for more than 4 hours.

- FDA statement on food products exposed to power outages. <https://www.fda.gov/food/recallsoutbreaksemergencies/emergencies/ucm112723.htm>